

UPPER DEESIDE AND DONSIDER LAND MANAGEMENT GROUP

CONSTITUTION

Name

The Group name shall be the Upper Deeside and Donside Land Management Group (the 'Group').

Objectives

The Group's objectives are to:

Promote the sustainable management of deer in the UDDLGM area in accordance with the UDDLGM Deer Management Plan, Scottish Government strategy (Scotland's Wild Deer: A National Approach, 2008), the Code of Practice on Deer Management (2012), and in a manner that integrates different land-use objectives. Members support and fully endorse the long-term vision for deer populations and their management as laid out in;

- "Scotland's Wild Deer – A National Approach".
- Code of Practice on Deer Management
Wild Deer Best Practice Guidance.

Promote collaboration which supports the wider environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable management of land, flora and fauna within the Group area, achieving both private and public benefits, and where this is better enabled by co-operation between land management units.

Group Area

The geographic area covered by the Group is as depicted on the attached map. The boundary may be open to amendment should the Group so decide.

Membership

Membership of the Group will be open to each person or organisation responsible for deer management of an area of over 100 acres of land within the Group area or their authorised representatives. For the avoidance of doubt private, public sector, voluntary body or corporate landowners are entitled to be members of the Group.

Representatives from relevant public bodies, NGOs and local bodies may be invited to attend meetings of the Group.

Members obligations

Members agree to support the effective running of the Group by:

- Attending or being represented at all LMG meetings.
- Supplying information required for the administration of the Group

Adopted on 17 March 2021

- Supplying information required for the writing and review of the Group Deer Management Plan and for meeting the Group's Objectives.
- Paying an annual subscription to the Group at such rates as may be agreed.
- Collaborating with other Members and other relevant interests as set out in the ADMG Principles of Collaboration (Appendix 1).
- Advising the Group of any relevant changes in terms of ownership or responsibility for deer management in respect of their individual landholdings.
- Carrying out deer management in accordance with all relevant legislation, the SNH Code of Practice for Deer Management and Wild Deer Best Practice.

Office Bearers

Office bearers will comprise Chair and, if required, Vice Chair, who shall be elected annually at the Group AGM. Re-election on a rolling basis is permitted with no restriction on the period of time that an office bearer may serve.

The administrative positions of Secretary and Treasurer (which may be combined) and external Auditor are appointed positions and such appointments and any terms of employment shall be for approval annually at the Group AGM.

Meetings

- The Group will meet twice annually or more frequently as may be necessary.
- 5 full Members of the Group or their representative shall form a quorum.
- The Secretary will take a Minute of all meetings and circulate copies to all Members.
- An Annual General (AGM) meeting shall be held at such a place, date and hour as the Group shall decide. Advance notice will be given to Members not less than 28 days in advance of the AGM.
- A voting majority shall be defined as two thirds of the quorum.

Funding and Financial Arrangements

The Group will be self-financing and the subscription will be set annually at the AGM. The basis of subscription calculation shall be agreed by the Group and approved by members at an AGM. Subscriptions will be set a rate sufficient to cover all the operating expenses of the Group. Subscriptions will be payable at a date to be determined by the Group.

A financial Statement will be prepared by an Auditor appointed by the Group and presented at the AGM for approval by Members. In the event of funds being left upon the winding up of the Group the disbursement of these funds will be determined by the Members.

The financial year shall be as determined by the Group. A budget for the expenditure of the Group will be produced by the Secretary each year and circulated to all members in advance for approval at the AGM. Approval of the members will be required for any expenditure above the total level in that budget. An account will be presented by the Secretary to the Group at the AGM for the preceding financial year.

Conflict resolution

It shall be the duty of all Members to seek agreement in respect of Group objectives and, where a dispute arises between Members, to resolve such dispute by negotiation and compromise. When agreement cannot be reached it shall be in the option of the Chairman to

refer the matter to arbitration by the Chairman of the Association of Deer Management Groups or such other independent expert as the parties may agree.

Membership information, records and data

Storage of membership information will be the responsibility of the Secretary, such information to be used solely for the administration of the Group and stored in accordance with the law.

The Group shall determine such deer management and related data as will be required to fulfil the objectives of UDDLGM. Such data will be collected by all Members and submitted to the Secretary for storage and analysis and shall be regarded as the property of the Group.